

PhD studentship (Full-time)



Institution	Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, China
Department	Department of Biological Sciences
Supervisors	Principle supervisor: Theo Kantidakis (Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University) Co-supervisor: Lakis Liloglou (University of Liverpool, UK);
Application Deadline	Open until the position is filled
Funding Availability	Funded PhD project (world-wide students)
Project Title	The role of C7ORF26 in the regulation of gene transcription and genomic stability.
Contact	Please email Theo.Kantidakis@xjtlu.edu.cn (principal supervisor's email address) and copy doctoralstudies@xjtlu.edu.cn with a subject line of the PhD project title

Requirements:

The candidate should have a first class or upper second class honours degree, or a master's degree (or equivalent qualification), in Biological Sciences. Evidence of good spoken and written English is essential. The candidate should have an IELTS score of 6.5 or above, or an equivalent qualification, if the first language is not English. This position is open to all qualified candidates irrespective of nationality.

Degree:

The student will be awarded a PhD degree from the University of Liverpool (UK) upon successful completion of the program.

Funding:

The PhD studentship is available for three years subject to satisfactory progress by the student. The award covers tuition fees for three years (currently equivalent to RMB 80,000 per annum) and provides a monthly stipend of 3500 RMB as a contribution to living expenses. It also provides up to RMB 16,500 to allow participation at international conferences during the period of the award. It is a condition of the award that holders of XJTLU PhD scholarships carry out 300-500 hours of teaching assistance work per year. The scholarship holder is expected to carry out the major part of his or her research at XJTLU in Suzhou, China. However, he or she is eligible for a research study visit to the University of Liverpool of up to three months, if this is required by the project.

Project Description:

Although the human genome has been sequenced, there are still genes/proteins that have not been investigated. C7ORF26 (chromosome 7 open reading frame 26) is one such example. It is very well conserved in mammals and expressed in a variety of tissues. Recent large scale immunoprecipitation experiments, followed by mass spectroscopy, identified C7ORF26 as an interactor of RNA polymerase II and the integrator complex. The integrator complex is strongly associated with RNA polymerase II and regulates several aspects of gene transcription, while certain subunits of the complex have also been implicated in DNA damage response. This project will investigate the role of C7ORF26 in gene transcription by RNA polymerase II, as well as RNA polymerases I and III. Moreover, the role of C7ORF26 in DNA damage and genomic instability will be explored.

The Kantidakis lab is a research-active lab, suitable for enthusiastic and highly-motivated PhD candidates. The lab employs a wide range of basic and cutting-edge biochemical, molecular and cell biology techniques to investigate gene transcription regulation and its connection to DNA damage and genomic stability. The successful candidate will benefit from working alongside the principal investigator, who will provide him/her with direct mentorship and training.

For more information about doctoral scholarship and PhD programme at Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University (XJTLU): Please visit

<http://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/admissions/phd/entry-requirements.html>

<http://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/admissions/phd/feescholarships.html>

How to Apply:

Interested applicants are advised to email Theo.Kantidakis@xjtlu.edu.cn (principal supervisor's email address) the following documents and copy doctoralstudies@xjtlu.edu.cn (please put the project title in the subject line).

- CV
- Two reference letters with company/university letterhead
- Personal statement outlining your interest in the position
- Proof of English language proficiency (an IELTS score of above 6.5 or equivalent is required)
- Verified school transcripts in both Chinese and English (for international students, only the English version is required)
- Verified certificates of education qualifications in both Chinese and English (for international students, only the English version is required)

Informal enquiries may be addressed to Dr. Theo Kantidakis (Theo.Kantidakis@xjtlu.edu.cn), whose personal profile is linked below, <http://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/departments/academic-departments/biological-sciences/staff/theodoros-kantidakis>